



The Bosman family of South Africa

The progenitor of the Bosman family of South Africa is Hermanus Bosman. He came from Amsterdam in the Netherlands. Hermanus became a sick comforter in the service of the D.E.I.C. and arrived in Cape Town on 19 April 1707 on the vessel *Overrijp*. He worked as sick comforter, lead singer and scripture reader of the DRC congregation in Paarl until his retirement from the D.E.I.C. in 1748. In 1715 he also received the picturesque farm *De Nieuwe Plantatie* on the south eastern slopes of the Paarl Mountain. Today this farm and original homestead is the property of the world acclaimed Grande Roche Hotel. Hermanus died in 1769 at the blessed age of 87. He married Elisabeth de Villiers in 1708 and together they had 11 children, consisting of seven sons and four daughters. His Bosman family name is carried forward by two of his sons:

- Hermanus (*b7: owner of the farm Olyvenhout in the Blouville near Wellington*)
- Isaak (*b10: owner of the farms Welgelegen and Koopmanskloof in the Bottelary near Stellenbosch*)

The Bosmans made their distinct mark in South African history. Some celebrities among them include:

- Herman Charles Bosman, writer
- J.J. Bosman, founder of Volkskas Bank
- Nallie Bosman, previous CEO of ABSA
- Hennie Bosman, Kyokushin champion and actor
- Lourie Bosman, previous president of Agri South Africa and MP
- Danie Bosman, composer of Afrikaans popular music
- Prof. D.B. Bosman, writer of Afrikaans/English dictionaries
- Bosman di Ravelli, international pianist
- Arnold Bosman, international conductor
- F.W. de Klerk (descendant), state president of South Africa
- Paul Kruger (descendant), last president of the *Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR)*
- Jamie Uys (descendant), filmmaker
- Ingrid Jonker and Elizabeth Eybers (descendants), poets
- Gabriel Gideon Cillie (descendant), first vice chancellor of the University of Stellenbosch
- Charné Bosman (by marriage), female winner of the Comrades Marathon in 2016

The book, entitled ***Die Familie Bosman in Suid-Afrika – 300 Jaar***, (as published in 2008) includes:

- A professional blue A4 paperback book in 2 volumes with a total of 852 pages
- More than 800 photographs, signatures and illustrations
- A family tree of 346 pages and more than 16,000 names with an additional surname index of 43 pages
- Numerous anecdotes and historical jewels on the family.

This is the most comprehensive publication of the Bosman family of South Africa to date and a sought after collector's item. The book is compiled in **Afrikaans**, but accommodates English readers too by means of English descriptions in three of the core chapters to guide them to an easier understanding of the basic contents.

There is still a hand full of copies for sale on a first come first served basis at R650 per set (shipment via PostNet courier service in South Africa included). The shipping costs *abroad* are available from me on request. If you want to avoid shipment, you can buy a book from me personally in Bellville (Cape Town) at a discounted price of R550 per set.

Please contact the author, Isak Bosman, if you would like to place an order.

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